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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of:

THOMPSON, Jr *et al.*

Application No. 10/699,356

Filed: October 31, 2003

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
INTEGRATING EXISTING COMPUTER-
BASED SYSTEMS**

Confirmation No. 2529

Art Unit: 2121

Examiner: *Unassigned*

Atty. Docket: **02708.0148.NPUS01**

**PETITION FOR AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED
PRIORITY CLAIM UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.78**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop Petitions

SIR,

Applicants hereby petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) for the benefit of an earlier filed U.S. provisional application. As originally filed, the above-identified patent application failed to include the appropriate claim to priority under § 119(e).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3), Applicants submit the following in support of this Petition:

- 1) This application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/422,826, filed on October 31, 2002 and entitled "Common Network Interface".
- 2) A Preliminary Amendment is filed herewith to amend the first paragraph of the Specification to include the information set forth in paragraph (1), above.
- 3) Applicants submit herewith the fee of \$1370.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(t).
- 4) The entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2)(ii) (February 28, 2004) and the date of this Petition was unintentional.

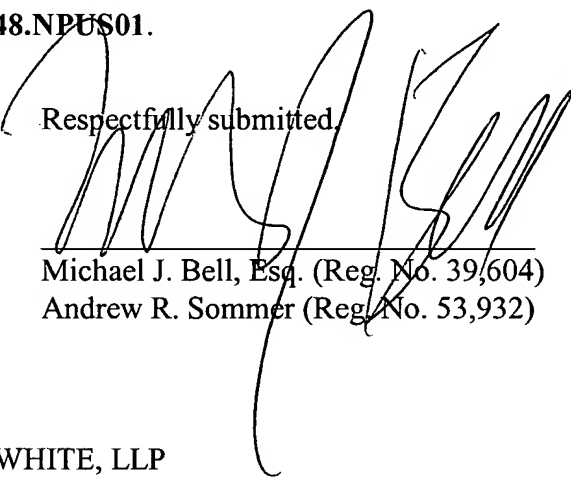
10/29/2004 LINDYMI 00000044 083038 10699356
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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request correction of the priority claim in accordance with the Preliminary Amendment set forth herewith.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge the petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(t) in the amount of \$1,370.00 to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing docket number 02708.0148.NPUS01.

It is not believed that fees are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional fees are necessary under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.21, and 1.492, applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge and such fees, or to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing attorney docket number **02708.0148.NPUS01**.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Bell, Esq. (Reg. No. 39,604)
Andrew R. Sommer (Reg. No. 53,932)

Date: October 28, 2004

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
Box No. 34
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2402
(202) 783-0800



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

THOMPSON, Jr. *et al.*

Application No.: 10/699,356

Filed: October 31, 2003

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
INTEGRATING EXISTING COMPUTER-
BASED SYSTEMS**

Confirmation No. 2529

Art Unit: 2121

Examiner: *Unassigned*

Atty. Docket: **02708.0148.NPUS01**

Preliminary Amendment

Mail Stop Petitions

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-captioned application prior to the examination thereof.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing attorney docket number **02708.0148.NPUS01**.

Amendments to the specification appear at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks appear at page 3.

In the Specification

Amendments to the specification appear as replacement sections or replacement paragraphs. All changes to the specification are indicated with additions indicated using underline and deletions made using ~~striketrough~~.

Please add the following paragraph and heading at line 3, page 1 of the specification as originally filed:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/422,826, filed on October 31, 2002 and entitled "Common Network Interface".

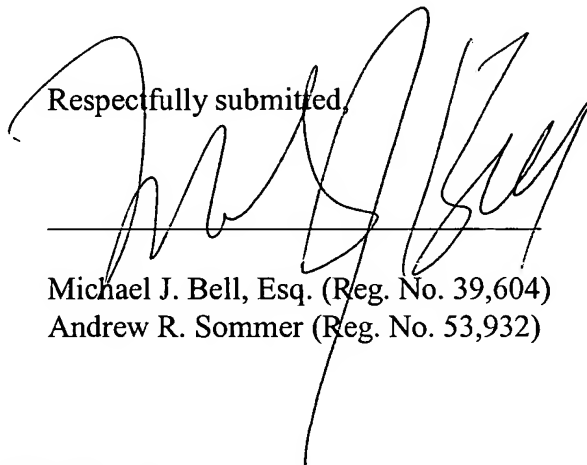
Remarks

Entry of the above-identified amendment is respectfully requested to correctly cross-reference the prior provisional application to which the present application is entitled to claim priority.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Michael J. Bell, is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter being a large capital 'M'.

Michael J. Bell, Esq. (Reg. No. 39,604)
Andrew R. Sommer (Reg. No. 53,932)

Date: October 28, 2004

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
Box No. 34
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2402
(202) 783-0800



DAC
B

1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2402
PHONE 202.783.0800
FAX 202.383.6610
A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

October 28, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop Petitions

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application No. 10/699,356
Filed: October 31, 2003 Confirmation No.: 2529
For: **Systems and Methods for Integrating Existing
Computer-Based Systems**
Inventors: THOMPSON, et al.
Attorney Docket No.: 02708.0148.NPUS01

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. **Petition for an Unintentionally Delayed Priority Claim**
2. **Preliminary Amendment**
3. **Return Receipt postcard**

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge the petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(t) in the amount of \$1,370.00 to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing docket number 02708.0148.NPUS01.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-3038. *A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bell (Reg. No. 39,604)
Andrew R. Sommer (Reg. No. 53,932)

Enclosures